

"We are laborers together with God."

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society

OF THE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

OF THE

NEBRASKA SYNOD,

HELD AT

OMAHA, NEB., SEPT. 22-24, 1891.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
LUTHERAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY.  
1891.

# CALENDAR, 1891-1892.

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MRS. C. W. BAKER, Auburn.

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MISS MATILDA LEISENRING, Omaha.

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MRS. G. H. ALBRIGHT,

MISS M. LEISENRING,

MRS. L. F. M. EASTERDAY,

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MRS. W. L. REMSBERG, Beatrice.

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MRS. W. C. MCCOOL, Ponca.

MRS. G. A. CRANNELL, Tekamah.

### WESTERN COMMITTEE.

MRS. E. LEE FLECK, Sidney.

MRS. HEIMBURGER, Grand Island.

## PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

Auburn, Nebraska.

MINUTES  
OF THE  
TWELFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society  
OF THE  
SYNOD OF NEBRASKA.

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OMAHA, NEB., SEPT. 22, 1891.

The Twelfth Annual Convention of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of Nebraska Synod was held in Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, Omaha. The President, Mrs. J. G. Griffith, opened the Convention at 2 p. m.

The following delegates and visitors were enrolled:

Auburn—Mrs. C. W. Baker, Mrs. John Frerechs.  
Benedict—Mrs. Esther Johnson, Mrs. Vene Conover.  
Lincoln, St. Mark's—Mrs. O. M. Esterday, Mrs. N. A. Pike.  
Lincoln, Grace—Mrs. S. C. Crounse.  
Nebraska City—Mrs. J. C. Jacoby.  
Oakland, Grace—Miss Sedrels Larsen.  
Omaha, Kountze Memorial—Mrs. A. J. Turkle, Mrs. H. J. Penfold.

Omaha, St. Mark's—Mrs. J. F. Wilhelmy, Mrs. Seibert.  
 Omaha, St. Mark's Mission Band—Miss Emma Sasstrone.  
 Omaha, St. Matthew's—Miss Matilda Leisenring.  
 Omaha, Von Bora Mission Band—Miss Hattie B. Swobe.  
 Ponca—Mrs. W. C. McCool.  
 Rising—Mrs. J. N. Zimmer.  
 Tekamah—Miss Bertha Swanson.  
 West Point—Miss Lillie Bruner, Mrs. W. E. Krause.  
 Yutan—Miss Lydia Bender, Miss Sarah Dryden.

#### Visitors.

Lincoln—Mrs. John Albright, Miss Laura Easterday.  
 West Point—Mrs. Jos. Drahos.  
 Yutan—Mrs. G. H. Schnur, Miss Edith Dunning, Miss Carrie Hatfield.

Valparaiso—Miss — Barnes.  
 Tekamah—Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Kimmel.  
 Ponca—Rev. W. C. McCool.  
 Benedict—Rev. White.  
 Tekamah—Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Crannell.  
 Auburn—Mrs. Ed. Juel.  
 Omaha—Mrs. J. S. Detweiler, Mrs. C. A. Hubbard, Rev. A. J. Turkle, Rev. J. G. Griffith, Rev. W. A. Lipe, Rev. L. M. Kuhns.

A prayer service led by Mrs. G. A. Crannell closed the session.

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#### EVENING SESSION.

TUESDAY, 8 P. M.

The evening session was led by the pastor, Rev. A. J. Turkle, with the regular evening service.

Mrs. A. J. Turkle gave a cordial welcome to all visiting friends and delegates, expressing the hope that this meeting together would strengthen us all to go forward and occupy the fields opening to us.

To this address Mrs. O. M. Easterday responded in behalf of

the Convention, thanking the ladies of Omaha for their kind reception, and assuring them they came to learn as well as give.

The President then gave her annual report.

### President's Report.

*Dear Sisters of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of Nebraska Synod:* The guiding hand that rules and controls all events has brought us through another year, and granted us the privilege of meeting in this beautiful church home in our twelfth annual convention. We are come to greet each other as workers in our Master's vineyard, to look each other in the face, and clasp each other by the hand and speak some word to cheer on to greater conquest and better work. Yes, another year is past, and how soon the time came for us to meet again! The enthusiasm of our last convention so cheered us that we separated with bright hopes of more and better work than ever before. Now we are met to hear what we have done and what our prospects are for the future. We trust that every fond hope has been realized, and we have all come with greater expectations than ever before. We should have great expectations, and should try to have them fulfilled by each one coming with greater consecration and a personal interest to make this convention our best.

As the President of your Society and of your Executive Committee, it may be you are looking for a detailed account of the work. This will be done by the proper officers and various committees at the appointed time. Suffice it to say much has been done, much—very much—remains to be done.

### THE PAST

Has been full of difficulties, which have impeded the work of establishing a Society in every congregation. Many of our congregations were but newly organized; great burdens were to be borne by pastor and people to secure a church home, or to liquidate the debt of one already secured. These have felt that it was really mission work to thoroughly establish the home church, and relieve it as much as possible from the strain of any outside demands. It is easy for us, at a distance, to see what might be done and to tell how to do it; but to be right in the work, burdened with debt, the people flinching beneath the yoke, oftentimes murmuring against their leader, may seem, at least, to be an excuse for not organizing a missionary society at once. It requires time to interest and educate the people, and to organize them for every department of church work. We may have been hasty in our judgment of pastors and congregations in the new fields, and we are now inclined to give more sympathy to them in their efforts, although it may be that some do not merit our sympathy; that they have not the desire, or do not esteem it a privilege to do this work for the blessed Master. Again, some may have thought that it was not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to dogs. But surely the mission work has only received the crumbs that fall. We would

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TWELFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE

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that even the crumbs would have been given by every congregation. This would at least have kept the mission spirit from starvation.

The work of our Society has not been fully understood by all of our pastors and people. It is true, all the needed information has been given by our Literature Committee, yet some have asked for more light, and some pastors have expressed a desire for some one of our women to come among them and organize the women of the church into a Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society. Paul might have been afraid to make such a request, or to undertake the work in his day, but we are sure Paul would not object to a few women in every church banding themselves together for such a blessed work for the Lord Jesus.

The German element in some of our churches have been trained for general work through the regular channels of the Church, and while they are doing far more in mission work than many of us think or know of, yet they have been slow to adopt any new measures; but we are glad to say that most of our most enthusiastic workers in the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society are German by birth and education.

#### THE PRESENT

Is full of good cheer. The older Societies are becoming more thoroughly educated in the work to be done, and how to do it, and they are taking hold with a will, lending a helping hand to every call that comes to us from our leaders. The reports of success in conducting missionary meetings, the organizing of Young Ladies' Societies and Children's Bands, are encouraging news from some of our churches. If we train the children, not only to give, but how to conduct a missionary meeting, and make it interesting, as they pass from the Mission Band to the Young Ladies' Societies, and thence to the regular Auxiliary, we may expect to have workers well equipped for usefulness, both in the home work and in our Synodical Conventions.

Our last Convention proved to us that our women were able to discuss the various subjects of interest in an intelligent and thoughtful manner. Our hopes for this present Convention, based upon the past, are full of anticipation, and we shall rejoice with you in making this the best of all. The present is ours, sisters, and we are here to have a part in the annual gathering, to tell of the work and how we have done it, to pray for God's blessing and guidance, to catch the spirit of song. Our Auxiliaries have sent us here to receive all the information we can, and at the same time to impart all we can for the benefit of others. May the Master find no idlers here, but every one busy working the works of Him that sent us, and a new life shall be imparted to the workers and to the work. Naught is forgotten or unappreciated by Him for whom we labor. The future outlook is one that gladdens, and if there be a prophetess among us, let her speak for our encouragement, and tell of what shall be in the years to come, when the millions who people our plains, the mountains and valleys, reaching to the Pacific slope, shall all be housed, when every-

where the church shall be established, and our sons and daughters of like precious faith shall gather round her altars in the spirit of true devotion. Let her tell, that in every church a Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society shall exist, the conventions of the future shall be larger and more enthusiastic, and that instead of one in the great State of Nebraska as to day, there will be many, noted for their enthusiasm and true missionary spirit.

The thirty-three years of our church history in Nebraska has been written. The first laborer in this city is with us, and we rejoice with him for this opportunity to meet with the first Lutheran organization formed in Nebraska, and worshipping in this beautiful temple, made thrice beautiful now by the hands of consecrated women, who have adorned these sacred precincts with plants and flowers bearing the divine touch, and sending sweet incense to Him who delights in the offerings of both hand and heart. The future of our work in this land will be glorious. From Freeport westward we have planted our dear old Church, and songs of praise have followed her, until the very mountain peaks echo back the refrain, "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will to men." We must hasten to occupy every field God opens to us. It is for the coming of Christ's kingdom we labor and pray. There must be a Woman's Society in every church. We cannot accomplish all at once, but must advance all along the line till the work is done, remembering that we are not alone in the work, but that we are "laborers together with God," and with the aid of One who promises us so freely of His co-operation the work cannot fail.

The Saviour said, "The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman hid in three measures of meal, and went on working until all was leavened." There is enough meal unleavened in this land of ours. The Word must be placed among the people to leaven them with the gospel light and life, and transform them into the children of God. It was a woman who hid the leaven in the meal; what an encouragement to us to hide here and there in our silent way the leaven of God's grace, which shall bring many home to Him. Let us hide the leaven. God will see that it works out good results. The world is waiting for the bread of life from our hands.

In closing, let me urge upon Societies the duty of continuing loyal to the General Society, and to study the plans and resolutions of our last General Convention at Canton, and try to carry them out to the best of your ability, knowing that the work has been well and wisely planned by those who present it to us.

A few matters of importance to be brought before this Convention are:

1. The necessity of Societies contributing only to those special objects recommended by the General Society, and that dues should not be given for any special work.

2. That Young People's Societies and Children's Bands should remember that the special objects for which they are working are the support of Miss Kistler and P. Lucy in India, and Miss Beekin in Africa.

3. That Societies or members of Societies wishing to educate a pupil in India should select a girl, and that they send the money through our Synodical Treasurer.

4. That we should exert ourselves to the utmost to circulate the *Missionary Journal*.

5. That Auxiliaries should have a contingent fund on hand, thus providing for any special call they may wish to help.

6. That the Societies remember and appreciate the arduous work of our Literature Committee, making a more general use of the tracts received, and responding readily to any communication from them.

7. That we remember our missionaries in our prayers at this Convention, making special mention of Dr. Kugler and Miss Dryden, now on their way to India, that they may arrive in safety, and take up the work with new strength and vigor.

Our Home Mission points are all in prosperous condition, and the new points taken up in California are very encouraging in their beginnings. Sacramento expects to have a church home before the winter months. Oakland Mission is soon to secure a lot, and then onward for a church. San José, the fifth and youngest mission on the Pacific coast, is in charge of Rev. V. G. A. Tressler, and will require our aid and prayers, as do all our missions.

The foreign work is growing to such an extent that the money is insufficient for the demands. More missionaries are needed; more teachers and helpers, which means more money. Shall it be said that we women must retrench our work for the lack of means? No; let it be said that with one united effort we carry on, not only what we have undertaken, but take up new work that is awaiting us.

And now, my sisters, I thank you for your kindness and co-operation, for your patient bearing with my inability, and return to you at this meeting the trust committed to me as your presiding officer, and I bespeak for the one upon whom the responsibility may fall, your prayers and sympathy and help for the coming year.

A collection of ten dollars and fifty cents (\$10.50) was lifted for State Synodical work.

After a vocal solo by Miss Frances Roeder, the following Committees were appointed:

#### List of Committees.

1. *On Letters and Papers*—Miss Lydia Bender, Mrs. W. E. Krause, Miss Bertha Swanson.

2. *On Reports of Officers and Standing Committees*—Mrs. J. W. Kimmel, Mrs. C. W. Baker, Miss Sedels Larsen.

3. *Resolutions*—Mrs. O. M. Easterday, Mrs. W. C. McCool, Mrs. J. C. Jacoby.

4. *Nominations*—Mrs. N. A. Pike, Mrs. Ed. Juel, Mrs. J. N. Zimmer.

5. *Auditing Committee*—Miss Lillie Bruner, Chairman.

6. *On Last Year's Minutes*—Mrs. G. H. Albright, Mrs. John Frerechs.

The Convention then adjourned for a social hour.

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### WEDNESDAY MORNING.

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SEPT. 23, 9 A. M.

After the opening services, the minutes were read and approved.

The Executive Committee reported the number of meetings held during the year, and work done. Also proposed the following for action by the Convention:

WHEREAS, We desire that there be a good representation at our annual Convention from each Auxiliary and Young People's Society, and invite all to take part in prayer, praise, and discussion; we yet deem it wise at this juncture of our work to recommend to this Convention the adoption of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That each Auxiliary and Young People's Society shall be limited to two voting delegates, and that each Children's Band shall be represented by its superintendent or leader.

This recommendation was adopted by the Convention and made a By-Law.

The Corresponding Secretary presented her annual report:

#### **Report of Corresponding Secretary.**

*Ladies of the Convention*: As your Corresponding Secretary I make report as follows:

First, as formerly I present the tabulated statement from which some idea may be gathered of what has been done during the year by our Auxiliaries, and of the condition in which they now are.

## Corresponding Secretary's Tabulated Statement.

| NAMES OF SOCIETIES.           | NAMES OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES. | ORGANIZED. | QUARTERS REPORTED. | Active Members. | Honorary Members. | Life Members. | Journals taken | Meetings Held. | Amount sent to Synodical Treasurer. | No. of Boxes sent. | Value of Boxes. |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                               |                                     |            |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 1 Auburn.                     | Mrs. Ed. Juel.                      | 1884, 1890 | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 26              | 4                 |               | 17             | 20             | \$40 95                             |                    |                 |
| 2 Benedict.                   | Mrs. Ella McClure.                  | 1886, 1890 | 2, 4               | 19              | 1                 |               | 11             | 6              | 8 95                                |                    |                 |
| 3 Dakota City.                |                                     |            |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 4 David City.                 | Mrs. G. S. Rumbaugh.                | 1889       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 10              |                   |               | 10             |                | 15 75                               |                    |                 |
| 5 David City Mission Band.    | Miss Mary Crouse.                   | 1891       | 4                  | 10              |                   |               |                |                | 1 25                                |                    |                 |
| 6 Grand Island.               | Mrs. Harry Pritchard.               | 1886, 1890 |                    |                 |                   |               |                | 1              |                                     |                    |                 |
| 7 Lincoln, St. Mark's.        | Mrs. G. H. Albright.                | 1884       | 2, 3, 4            | 12              |                   |               | 12             | 9              | 17 25                               |                    |                 |
| 8 Lincoln, Grace.             | Mrs. L. P. Ludden.                  | 1890       | 1, 2, 4            | 13              | 6                 | 1             | 10             | 10             | 22 15                               |                    |                 |
| 9 McCook Mission Band.        |                                     |            |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 10 Nebraska City.             | Miss C. Petring.                    | 1888       | 2, 3               | 16              |                   |               | 10             |                | 5 05                                |                    |                 |
| 11 Oakland, Grace.            | Miss Lizzie Foxwood.                | 1882       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 14              |                   | 1             | 6              | 11             | 20 45                               |                    |                 |
| 12 Omaha, Kountze Memorial.   | Mrs. Paul Hersh.                    | 1879, 1886 | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 32              | 4                 | 3             | 37             | 12             | 108 54                              |                    |                 |
| 13 Omaha, St. Mark's.         | Miss Hattie Berlin.                 | 1887       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 12              |                   |               | 30             | 12             | 35 40                               |                    |                 |
| 14 Omaha, "Miss Band.         | Miss Carrie Althaus.                | 1886       | 1, 2, 3            | 13              | 2                 |               |                |                | 3 25                                |                    |                 |
| 15 Omaha, St. Matthew's.      | Miss Josie Frost.                   | 1888       | 2, 3               | 7               | 1                 |               | 4              |                | 3 80                                |                    |                 |
| 16 Omaha, Von Bora Miss Band. | Miss Cora Gosney.                   | 1888       | 2, 3, 4            | 12              |                   |               | 11             | 12             | 9 40                                |                    |                 |
| 17 Ponca.                     | Mrs. H. C. Howe.                    | 1880       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 17              |                   |               | 18             | 9              | 18 95                               |                    |                 |
| 18 Rising.                    | Miss Tillie Fisher.                 | 1882       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 12              | 1                 |               | 8              | 11             | 16 10                               |                    |                 |
| 19 Stella.                    | Mrs. H. C. Clark.                   |            | 1, 2               | 8               |                   |               |                |                | 19 20                               |                    |                 |
| 20 Stella Mission Band.       | Miss Gertrude Martin.               | 1890       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 25              |                   |               |                | 10             | 14 60                               |                    |                 |
| 21 Stromsburg.                | Miss Lou Schlater.                  |            |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 22 Sidney.                    | Mrs. E. Lee Fleck.                  | 1889       |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 23 Tekamah.                   | Mrs. I. L. Wood.                    | 1880       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 12              |                   | 1             | 10             | 13             | 22 08                               |                    |                 |
| 24 Surprise.                  | Miss Julia Judd.                    | 1889       |                    |                 |                   |               |                |                |                                     |                    |                 |
| 25 Waverly.                   | Mrs. W. M. Rogers.                  | 1888       | 1, 2               | 15              |                   |               | 11             |                | 6 98                                |                    |                 |
| 26 Wayne.                     | Miss Flora Flohr.                   | 1884       | 2                  | 10              |                   |               |                |                | 2 45                                |                    |                 |
| 27 West Point.                | Mrs. Jos. Drabos.                   | 1881       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 11              |                   |               | 12             | 6              | 21 10                               |                    |                 |
| 28 Yutan.                     | Miss Lydia Bender.                  | 1883       | 1, 2, 3, 4         | 24              | 18                |               | 7              | 13             | 55 30                               |                    |                 |
| Totals                        |                                     |            |                    | 330             | 37                | 6             | 236            | 155            | 368 98                              | 3                  | \$142 00        |

Whilst nothing especially remarkable appears in the foregoing, still evidence is presented that much good work has been done by our Societies.

With the earnest hope that further improvement may be made in systematizing our work and securing greater accuracy in our reports, I desire to call attention to a very few matters, and ask the Convention to deliberate upon such as seem to you to desire special action.

First—In what manner may a woman be made a life member of the W. H. and F. M. Society, and what are the privileges of such member, and how often should such members be noticed in our quarterly and annual reports?

Second—It seems to be well understood that gentlemen as well as ladies may become honorary members of Auxiliary Societies by the payment of one dollar (\$1.00). For the payment of a single fee of one dollar how often should such members be noticed on our quarterly and annual reports?

Third—There has been confusion in the minds of Corresponding Secretaries concerning the item in the blank report, "Number of Meetings held." In former blanks it appeared, "Public Meetings held." What now are Secretaries expected to count in filling out the "Number of Meetings held?"

I wish again to call the attention of the Corresponding Secretaries to the importance of seeing that the figures representing money in their reports shall in each case agree with the money sent and reported to the Synodical Treasurer by the respective Auxiliary Treasurers.

Also let the figures representing money be accompanied with the properly located decimal point. Again, with the blank for the fourth quarterly report, I send the blank for the annual report for each Auxiliary Society. In some cases the annual report is made and returned, but the fourth quarterly report withheld, which leaves the file incomplete. It is especially annoying, too, when it is found to be impossible to verify the annual report of an Auxiliary Society from the compiling of the four quarterly reports from the same Society. Copies of the quarterly reports should always be retained by the Corresponding Secretary, and these should be used in the construction of the annual report.

By careful and continued attention to these and kindred matters, our reports and records may be much improved and thus become a source of great comfort, and all would tend to increase the efficiency of our working force.

Only one new Society has been added to our list during the last year. This is the David City Mission Band, which receives a hearty welcome.

To the best of my ability I have attended to the correspondence which naturally devolved upon my office.

The foregoing is most respectfully submitted,

MRS. L. F. M. EASTERDAY.

The Treasurer presented her report for the year ending August 31, 1891.

Treasurer's Tabulated Statement.

|                                            | General Fund. | Life Members | Zenana Home. | Sacra-mento. | Spec. For. Miss. | 1890 Syn. Fee. | 1891 Syn. Fee. | Totals.  |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| 1 Auburn . . . . .                         | \$31 25       | . . . . .    | \$3 30       | \$3 30       | . . . . .        | \$2 00         | \$3 00         | \$42 95  |
| 2 Benedict . . . . .                       | 5 42          | . . . . .    | 2 25         | 2 25         | . . . . .        | 1 10           | 1 90           | 12 92    |
| 3 David City . . . . .                     | 16 35         | . . . . .    | 50           | 50           | . . . . .        | 1 00           | 1 00           | 19 35    |
| 4 Lincoln, St. Mark's . . . . .            | 9 85          | . . . . .    | 2 50         | 2 50         | . . . . .        | 4 00           | 2 40           | 21 25    |
| 5 Lincoln, Grace . . . . .                 | 17 38         | . . . . .    | 2 25         | 2 25         | . . . . .        | 1 85           | . . . . .      | 23 73    |
| 6 Nelraska City . . . . .                  | 8 65          | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | \$25 00          | . . . . .      | 1 00           | 34 65    |
| 7 Omaha, Kountze Memorial . . . . .        | 36 00         | \$30 00      | 12 27        | 12 27        | 125 00           | 4 80           | 3 00           | 113 34   |
| 8 Omaha, St. Mark's . . . . .              | 17 50         | . . . . .    | 6 65         | 6 65         | . . . . .        | 4 60           | 3 00           | 35 40    |
| 9 Omaha, St. Matthew's . . . . .           | 2 85          | . . . . .    | 1 50         | . . . . .    | \$3 00           | 1 00           | 1 10           | 9 45     |
| 10 Oakland, Grace . . . . .                | 14 95         | . . . . .    | 2 10         | 2 10         | . . . . .        | 3 80           | 1 30           | 24 25    |
| 11 Ponca . . . . .                         | 11 90         | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | 4 15           | 2 00           | 18 05    |
| 12 Rising . . . . .                        | 13 90         | . . . . .    | 70           | 70           | . . . . .        | 3 00           | . . . . .      | 18 30    |
| 13 Sidney . . . . .                        | 7 30          | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | . . . . .      | 7 30           | 7 30     |
| 14 Stella . . . . .                        | 5 85          | . . . . .    | 2 25         | 2 00         | . . . . .        | 40             | . . . . .      | 10 50    |
| 15 Stromberg . . . . .                     | 9 60          | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | 3 00           | . . . . .      | 12 60    |
| 16 Tekamah . . . . .                       | 14 81         | . . . . .    | 2 00         | 2 69         | . . . . .        | 1 20           | 1 20           | 21 90    |
| 17 Waverly . . . . .                       | 8 18          | . . . . .    | 2 80         | 2 80         | . . . . .        | 40             | . . . . .      | 14 18    |
| 18 Wayne . . . . .                         | 6 40          | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | 1 00           | . . . . .      | 7 40     |
| 19 West Point . . . . .                    | 14 40         | . . . . .    | 1 25         | 1 25         | . . . . .        | 1 20           | 2 00           | 20 10    |
| 20 Yutan . . . . .                         | 42 00         | . . . . .    | 4 80         | 3 00         | . . . . .        | 2 50           | . . . . .      | 52 30    |
| 1 David City Mission Band . . . . .        | 1 20          | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | . . . . .      | 1 20           | 1 20     |
| 2 Stella Mission Band . . . . .            | 54            | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .    | . . . . .        | . . . . .      | 16             | 70       |
| 3 Omaha, St. Mark's Mission Band . . . . . | 4 35          | . . . . .    | 1 85         | 1 85         | . . . . .        | . . . . .      | 1 00           | 9 05     |
| 4 Omaha, Von Bora Mission Band . . . . .   | 3 40          | . . . . .    | 1 50         | 1 50         | . . . . .        | 1 00           | 2 00           | 9 40     |
| Collection, 1890 Convention . . . . .      | . . . . .     | . . . . .    | 4 50         | 4 50         | . . . . .        | 7 01           | . . . . .      | 16 01    |
| Totals . . . . .                           | \$304 13      | \$20 00      | \$54 97      | \$52 11      | \$53 00          | \$46 01        | \$26 06        | \$556 28 |

\* To educate student in India.

† To educate girl in India

‡ Dormitory in India, \$1.50; Corn Mill, Africa, \$1.50.

## RECEIPTS.

|                                             |         |          |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Balance of Synodical Society Fund . . . . . |         | \$38 27  |
| Received during the year from Auxiliaries:  |         |          |
| For 1890 synodical fee . . . . .            | \$39 00 |          |
| For 1891 synodical fee . . . . .            | 26 06   |          |
| For general and special objects . . . . .   | 475 21  |          |
|                                             |         | <hr/>    |
| Collections at 1890 Convention . . . . .    | 540 27  | 16 01    |
|                                             |         | <hr/>    |
|                                             |         | \$594 55 |

## DISBURSEMENTS.

|                                                             |        |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Remitted to General Treasurer . . . . .                     |        | \$484 21 |
| Expenses paid at 1890 Convention:                           |        |          |
| Miss N. Knight . . . . .                                    | \$8 13 |          |
| Miss H. Swobe . . . . .                                     | 11 48  |          |
| Mrs. J. G. Griffith . . . . .                               | 6 85   |          |
| Mrs. L. F. M. Easterday . . . . .                           | 10 65  |          |
| Mrs. G. H. Albright . . . . .                               | 7 40   |          |
|                                                             |        | <hr/>    |
|                                                             |        | 44 51    |
| Paid for 600 copies of 1890 Minutes . . . . .               | 35 00  |          |
| Paid for 200 postal card receipts . . . . .                 | 3 00   |          |
| Paid exchange on draft remitted General Treasurer . . . . . | 25     |          |
|                                                             |        | <hr/>    |
|                                                             |        | \$566 97 |
|                                                             |        | <hr/>    |
| By balance of Synodical funds on hand . . . . .             |        | 27 58    |
|                                                             |        | <hr/>    |
|                                                             |        | \$594 55 |

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. C. J. ERNST.

## Literature Committee.

## Your Committee reports:

|                                                |     |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|
| No. tracts distributed . . . . .               | 500 |
| No. subscriptions to Mission Studies . . . . . | 6   |
| No. Manuals sold . . . . .                     | 13  |
| No. Missionary Mosaics sold . . . . .          | 9   |

## Also the following financial statement:

## RECEIPTS.

|                                           |         |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| Sales at Convention (West Point). . . . . | \$4 55  |
| Sales to Societies. . . . .               | 8 15    |
| Donations. . . . .                        | 75      |
|                                           | <hr/>   |
|                                           | \$13 45 |

## EXPENDITURES.

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| For literature and postage . . . . . | \$13 17 |
| Balance on hand . . . . .            | 28      |
|                                      | <hr/>   |
|                                      | \$13 45 |

We present bill from Mrs. J. B. Carr, Financial Secretary of General Literature Committee for \$3.91, amount due for material purchased for this Convention.

Twenty-five Societies have been furnished with literature.

During January and February letters were addressed to each Society enclosing one dozen tracts with suggestions as to their use, and asking that fifteen cents (.15) and postage be remitted in payment of same. Eighteen of the twenty-five Societies cheerfully responded.

We received a letter from Miss M. H. Morris, Corresponding Secretary of the General Literature Committee, under date of January 13, recommending that your Synodical Literature Committee use the following plan: "Procure and send out leaflets, every month one, to each Woman's Society, Young People's Society, and Children's Band, to be kept and circulated after being read at the meeting. We urge particularly that the tracts be circulated among women who do not come to the meetings. Of course this plan requires money, and the Societies should be asked to bear the expense, those who think they are not able being excused. A contribution of twenty-five cents yearly from each Society would enable your Committee to carry out this plan. A Synodical Literature Committee can do little without funds." In accordance with the above suggestion, each of the twenty-five Societies was written to. Responses with money were received from the following: Koantze Memorial, St. Matthew's Young People, Omaha, St. Mark's, Lincoln. Among other replies received were some expressing a willingness to try the plan and gratitude for any help rendered to further their work; some expressed annoyance, and still others reported that their supplies had been received direct from the General Literature Committee. However, on comparing our work this year with that of the two previous years, we find we are progressing, for which we thank God.

Article VI. of our Constitution says: "In each Synodical Society there shall be a Committee on Literature, whose duty it shall be to co-operate with the General Literature Committee, and furnish Auxiliary Societies with missionary intelligence in the form of tracts, periodicals, copies of missionary letters, etc." We are a depot of supplies for this Synodical Society. We desire to be faithful to our trust. Auxiliaries can greatly assist us by replying to our letters of inquiry promptly, and by ordering all supplies, such as "*Mission Studies*," *Mosaics*, tracts, manuals, etc., through us. By such a method the General Literature Committee will be relieved of the task of filling orders for Auxiliaries, and we as a Synodical Committee will become acquainted with the supplies and needs of the Auxiliaries of our Synod.

Some one has so aptly said: "Whatever tends to enlighten the mind and move the heart and engage the service of man, that he may know and love and obey the truth of the word of God, is an agency in the diffusion of religious knowledge. Next to the preaching of the gospel, the circulation of religious literature is the most effectual means whereby the truth of the divine word may be known, confessed and obeyed."

HARRIET B. SWOBE,

*Chairman.*

A discussion followed in regard to the best means of Conference work.

The reports of the Auxiliaries were encouraging, showing increase in interest in the work.

Mrs. J. W. Kimmel led the prayer service.

The best way of raising money for special objects was discussed.

The greetings of the Convention were sent to the W. C. T. U. Convention, in session in the city.

Adjourned with the benediction by Rev. J. W. Kimmel.

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### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

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SEPT. 23, 2 P. M.

After the opening services, Mrs. J. G. Griffith, delegate to the General Convention held at Canton, O., last May, presented her report, giving a full and interesting account of the proceedings.

From a paper entitled "How Shall we Train our Workers?" by Mrs. Paul Hersh, we quote the following extracts:

"More than 1,000 years before our Master gave the command, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature,' Solomon, the wise man, wrote these words, 'Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.' Childhood is the plastic age, impressions made at that period are ineffaceable. A Roman Catholic priest once said, 'Give me the education of a child until he is seven years of age, and I care not who has the remaining years.'

"We, as a Missionary Society, seem to be awake to the importance of educating the children, and at each Biennial more time is devoted to consideration of the ways and means whereto this may be accomplished. Many churches have Mission Bands managed by the children; in other cases the officers are of the adults, which is the better way for training. We who have had no training need to develop our latent ability. 'What is my talent?' The answer seemed to come to me some months ago that time is the talent referred to, a talent common to all.

"It is the use, not the number of our talents, for which we shall be called to account. For those who wish to develop in mission work, the course of study

can be found in almost every home in the land. What better first book, intermediate course and finishing course can be found, than a study of our first book on missions—the Bible, particularly the New Testament? Much of the indifference to mission work is owing to ignorance on the subject. Dr. Livingstone has said, 'There can be no deep and abiding trust in missions that is not founded upon a knowledge of the work.'

"If members of a Society are unable to subscribe for the various helps issued, the Society should subscribe for a monthly to be circulated among their members, and start a library for the training of workers."

"How Shall We Train our Members?" was presented by Mrs. C. W. Baker.

1. "Create in them the desire to do all they can." This result may be attained by private kindly conversation on the part of the officers and individual members of the Society, telling of the joy found in the service of Christ, and witnessing thereto by corresponding action.

2. "Perform the work with promptness and fidelity." Nothing is more fatal to the work than to appoint a meeting at 3 p. m., and begin a half-hour or hour later, while the so-called active members come dribbling in. This may do at a funeral, but it will not do for a Missionary meeting unless we wish our Society to die. Very few persons can spare the time well enough to spend two hours in doing the work of one, and hence it is almost as important to close promptly as to begin promptly.

3. "Observe proper order, by having a regular order of business, and a regular previously adopted programme in the devotional meeting."

An observance of parliamentary rules in the meetings will prove to be a training, the effects of which are far-reaching and most beneficial.

4. "Exercise a spirit of true kindness toward each other, O Sisters!" That word "kind," has a world of training in it, as well as the word "consideration." They are golden, set with diamonds. Let us use them always and use them together, and the effect will be magical.

It is well to impress all with the greatness of the work, and the necessity of doing it now—the importance of every one lending a hand, as well as the greatness of Him for whom we labor, and many more will labor with us "In His Name."

"How Shall We Train our Committees?" was presented by Mrs. J. W. Kimmel.

This contained practical suggestions in regard to this part of the work, suggestions gained by long experience in the cause.

"A Missionary Society in Session" occupied the next hour, showing how a missionary meeting should be conducted.

Greetings from Rev. S. B. Barnitz, D. D., and Rev. H. H. Weber were read by the Secretary.

A prayer service by Mrs. G. H. Albright closed the meeting.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

SEPT. 23, 8 P. M.

Rev. J. W. Kimmel conducted the opening service.

The organ voluntary was rendered by Mr. Oſcar Goodman.

Mrs. O. M. Easterday gave a Bible reading on mission work.

Mrs. W. C. McCool then presented "A Plea for Workers."

**A Plea for Workers.**

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society is the one branch of organized woman's work directly connected with the church. It was organized about twelve years ago. During this time its importance as a spiritual, educational, and financial factor can not be over estimated. As a woman's ecclesiastical organization, it is the one towards which all moral organizations are looking, and the one which comprehends in its work the results of all. On account of the prejudice on the part of those preachers who adhere strictly to certain teachings of the Apostle Paul, woman's influence and power in the church remained comparatively unknown and undeveloped until this late date. During this time whole fields of public life newly opened to her, and to-day entirely too much of her ambition, talent, energy, and influence are diverted from the church. This is especially to be deplored, inasmuch as those familiar with the work of women elsewhere, and their peculiar adaptability to the work of the church, recognize in them a great evangelizing power. They who have been the spiritual stronghold among the laity for ages now turn in their new development of power, and strive rather after the ethical than the spiritual, and by exerting a worldly influence bury their talents which should be used for the Master's gain.

The time has come when the importance of the organization should be laid at the heart of every Christian woman. Some women should give themselves as wholly to the practical work in Auxiliary Societies as men are given to the ministry. In order to make the best impressions and gain the desired results, their training in many respects should be as thorough as that afforded to the young men in our Colleges and Theological Seminaries.

Yet to how many women is this organization a life object? How many are trained for its work, and developing their best business talents to the filling of its treasuries, or bringing their scholarship to the enrichment of its literature? How many are prepared to conduct its practical workings orderly and promptly by being trained in parliamentary usage and debate? These are questions of vital importance.

We must have workers who are more enthusiastic and zealous in order to arouse popular interest. "The Master is come and calleth for thee" is a commission to every Christian. He asks our immediate personal service. Having accepted Him as our Saviour, we must prepare ourselves for the work

He would have us do by daily studying the Bible and feasting upon its holy precepts, by nourishing our spiritual nature in quiet, thoughtful preparation of the heart. Draw aside from the bustle and cares of life as Jesus was wont to do, to commune with God; the soul thus nourished and rested bears the sweetest spiritual fruits.

Having consecrated ourselves and become more Christ-like, we are commanded to "go work in my vineyard," seize the talent or opportunity and put it to use and increase our spiritual life. Aim to grow more busy in God's work, to spend more time and money in His service, to perform greater acts of self-denial, to increase in heavenliness of temper. Improve our opportunity of doing all manner of good for others, by our labors, money, love, and sometimes even a smile may act as a sunbeam on some poor, dark life.

Let our light shine in our homes and brighten them; become more Christ-like by being actively employed in lightening the sorrows of others; make the world sweeter, and never complain that life is without interest. God will surely call us to account as to how we have improved these golden opportunities, talents entrusted to our keeping. The faithful Christian will have new fields of usefulness open to her as her skill grows by practice; she who is not willing to begin work in an humble sphere will never be called to a magnificent work as an evangelist and teacher of the Bible, or hear God's hearty approval, "Well done."

It is the great need of trained women that causes the burden to fall so heavily upon a few in our Auxiliary Societies. There is generally a good number present, and there is no doubt but that their consecration is sincere; but their preparation and training for this work have been so deficient that they refuse to participate openly in their devotional and literary exercises.

Those of us who are very "zealous for the work of the Lord," are almost bowed down at times with despondent grief and doubt, as Elijah at Horeb. When we see so many women old and young wasting their golden moments of opportunity for mere self-gratification, not improving even one talent for the Lord, we look upon these wasted lives as one of the saddest things in the universe. But gradually these clouds of despondency, which shut out the Father's face for a moment, pass away and we again see our duty; hearing the still small voice, "Go, return on thy way," we take new courage and endeavor to be dauntless leaders in truth and righteousness.

Christianity has done more for women and children than any other religion has ever attempted to do for them. When men would have put them in subjection and dishonor, as is seen in other lands, it has liberated them and crowned them with honor. Since we have been so abundantly blessed in being born in a land of gospel light and privileges, should we allow ourselves to be mere receiving centres, and not distributing factors in the Christian world? We may be fed upon gospel truths a whole lifetime, but unless we exercise our faith derived therefrom by works, we will never enjoy a truly religious life. God wants to use us, being emptied of self. He wants us not only to

have His word hid in our hearts, but to let our works testify that we are His chosen disciples, channels of usefulness.

It is no longer only a privilege, but a duty we owe to the Church and to God, to help extend the Gospel of Christ to all who are now sitting in darkness; and as we go on our mission of love among the poor, degraded, hard-hearted creatures of God's own hand, we gain new faith to look above for the Holy Spirit's power to sustain us. As the fountain that cools and purifies the air around, yet is never empty, and its own waters are always pure, so we, in bettering the condition of others by doing the Master's service, are constantly receiving from the fountain head of Divine power and are ourselves made pure.

We dare not be so selfish as to be hearers of the Word only and not doers, when there is a great world lying in sin all around us, needing the touch of the Gospel of Christ, and the world of heathenism crying for the bread of life to be sent "faster." In order to be intelligent workers we must be well-informed in the Master's business.

It is a lamentable fact that the lack of information is in many cases a greater hindrance in the way of Christian activity than the lack of disposition. Far too many Christian women store their minds with either light, trifling, foolish literature or scientific knowledge, and exclude religious doctrine and the progress of Christianity. Such persons may be the better fitted in worldly wisdom for society, but the Church needs these gifted tongues and ready pens, now idle or otherwise employed, to advance the cause of Christ. They should devote more time in studying the Bible, select fewer books for perusal and only those calculated to improve the mind and heart, read the Church papers and *Missionary Journal* regularly. It is just as necessary for a Christian to have a fixed noble purpose behind a disposition to read, as behind physical strength in worldly pursuits, in order that her reading may be serviceable to her. This "weak ability" that is such a barrier in the path of duty, becomes strong only as it is exercised. So throw off the man-fearing spirit in which it is hid, and let it develop to the glory of God.

There are so many women, old and young, who are employing their leisure selfishly, some for reading in Chautauqua Circles, for no higher purpose than mere self-gratification; numbers of young girls are sent to our female seminaries, with no higher prospect of future usefulness in view than to be trained merely for the adornment of society—their influence in the Church will be exerted perhaps only to serve on a committee for a sociable or church fair. Then there are others passing their time in music and art, not sufficiently interested in either to make thorough work of them, but only because they seem to find them the most congenial employment for their time and talents; while many others are sitting with folded hands, longing for new pleasures and enjoyments, so time shall not drag so heavily along. These classes never take into consideration that this branch of church work has need of them all. They are the ones who have the means as well as the time to apply them—

selves diligently in a special practical training for this work. They have the opportunity of becoming the trained, thinking and executive women that the Church is so loudly calling for at home as well as abroad—just such women as we must have to make the work a success.

Oh, that we who are willing to do the work, but on account of limited means are obliged to pass much of our time in performing domestic duties, could grasp the neglected opportunities!—how gladly we would improve them in imitating the example of the great Missionary, and in preparing ourselves in the spiritual and intellectual development which the requirements of the work demand.

Church work has become just as much a divine call to women as the call to the ministry is a divine call to young men. See the vast territories in new countries now open to them. Is there not encouragement enough to inspire them to make due preparation to go forward in love, reverence and hope, knowing that the stone of prejudice is being rapidly rolled away, and they are called to publish the news of a living Saviour to the world?

God grant that many Christian women who have been indifferent in the past may make Church work a single aim, and willingly make all necessary preparation to become efficient workers in the enlargement of Zion and the spread of the Gospel! May we all work in unity and love!

“There’s a oneness of God’s people  
Like the oneness of the sea;  
With each heart so interwoven  
That the whole is unity.  
Like the drops of the great ocean,  
Each so blended in the other,  
So the love of God unites us,  
And we live for one another.

Rev. J. N. Lenker, the Western Secretary of our Board of Church Extension, and a member of the new Rocky Mountain Synod, gave a short talk on the chart, “Lutherans in All Lands.”

A collection of \$11.51 was lifted for Foreign Missions.

A vocal solo was given by Miss Frances Roeder, and the meeting adjourned.

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#### THURSDAY MORNING.

SEPT. 24, 9 A. M.

After reading of the Scripture and prayer by the President, the minutes were read and approved.

A Committee and the Secretary were appointed to look over the minutes of the previous Conventions and collect and arrange the By-Laws in proper form.

Moved that the minutes of the Convention be printed separately and the number of copies be left with the Executive Committee to determine.

Carried.

The reports of Special Committees were heard.

#### **Report of Committee on Last Year's Minutes.**

We have examined last year's Minutes and find them correct. We would call attention to the resolution adopted at the last Convention, assessing each active member 10 cents for the Synodical fee. To what extent has this been carried out?

We would also call attention to the 10 cents assessed each active member for printing of the Minutes. Does this apply for this year's Minutes?

MRS. G. H. ALBRIGHT,  
MRS. JOHN FRERECHS.

Report adopted.

On motion, the matter of the Synodical fee and printing of Minutes was left with the Executive Committee.

#### **Auditing Committee.**

Your Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's report, have examined the same and find it correct.

MISS LILLIE BRUNER, *Chairman*.

#### **On Reports of Officers and Standing Committees.**

Your Committee in charge of Reports of Officers and Standing Committees would report as follows:

The papers in our hands are—

- (1) President's Address.
- (2) Corresponding Secretary's Report.
- (3) Report of Executive Committee.
- (4) Report of Literature Committee.

The Committee requests that the President's report be published in full with the Minutes of the Convention.

We recommend that the important matters suggested in this report be endorsed especially by the Convention, and every effort be made to secure the co-operation of the Auxiliary Societies in regard to these important matters.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary shows careful and methodical business arrangement. And your Committee would urge that all future annoyance and interference with the regular work of this officer, caused by irregular and careless reporting, be strictly guarded against.

The Corresponding Secretary calls attention to and asks the action of the Convention on the following:

1. Lady life-members.
2. Gentleman honorary members.
3. The item on the blank reports, "Number of Meetings held."
4. The necessity of accurate and regular reporting.

And we recommend that the Societies carefully attend to the instructions of the Synodical Corresponding Secretary, and send reports every quarter, preserving a duplicate report from which to make out the annual reports, comparing the reports of the Treasurer and Secretary, that no mistakes be made.

In relation to this matter, we suggest that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to furnish duplicate blanks for the use of the Auxiliaries.

In view of the large number of congregations in Nebraska Synod that have no organized Missionary Society, and from the fact that but one has been organized during the year, we ask that this Convention devise some means of extending this work.

We have also examined the report of the Executive Committee, and would recommend that the suggestions it contains be hereby approved and adopted.

The report of the Synodical Literature Committee shows an excellent plan of working this important department, and we would recommend that if this report cannot be published in full in the Minutes, that the Chairman be requested to furnish a synopsis of the most important matters which she would wish to be brought before the Societies.

In order that our Literature Committee may adopt the plan of the General Committee, we ask that this Convention demand the contribution of the necessary 25 cents a year from each Auxiliary.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. J. W. KIMMEL,

MRS. C. W. BAKER,

MISS SEDELS LARSEN.

This report was adopted item by item.

The items of the Corresponding Secretary's report were answered briefly as follows:

1. Life members of the General Society may be made by payment of ten dollars (\$10.00); they should pay their Auxiliary dues as usual, and the names should be reported but once.
2. Gentleman honorary members pay one dollar (\$1.00) annually, or lose their membership.
3. The item "Number of Meetings held" includes all meetings, regular, special and public. Notes may be made of special work.
4. Recommended that duplicate blanks be furnished by the Synodical Corresponding Secretary to the Auxiliary Corresponding Secretaries.

The recommendation concerning the report of the Literature Committee was left to the committee on printing minutes.

The report was adopted as a whole.

### On Letters and Papers.

Your Committee have examined the following papers: Address of Welcome and Response, Greetings from Rev. Dr. Barnitz and Rev. Weber, "How to Train our Workers," "How to Train our Members," "A Plea for Workers."

1. Address of Welcome assured the ladies of the Convention that the people of Omaha gave them a very cordial welcome to their city, and to all the hospitality that lay in their power. To which Mrs. O. M. Easterday responded in very fitting words, assuring them that we as a Convention do appreciate their kindness.

2. Greetings. We thank Rev. Dr. Barnitz and Rev. Weber for their kindly remembrance of us and for their words of cheer and encouragement. We would call attention to the note on Sacramento in the September *Journal*, of which Rev. Dr. Barnitz wishes careful consideration.

3. The papers read are full of interest; we would leave to the Convention whether they be printed or not.

4. Essay by Mrs. McCool is full of interest and facts. And we recommend that it be printed in full in the minutes.

MISS LYDIA BENDER,

MRS. W. E. KRAUSE,

MISS BERTHA SWANSON.

Adopted.

Moved that we recommend to the General Literature Committee to print a tract relating to the statistics of Lutherans in all lands, these statistics to be furnished by Rev. J. N. Lenker.

Adopted.

On motion, Mrs. J. W. Kimmel was appointed historian of the Synodical Society.

Moved that report of Committee on Minutes appointed last year be received, and the committee be discharged.

Adopted.

Auburn was selected as the place for the next Convention, the time to be left to the Executive Committee to decide. The session closed with devotional services led by Mrs. C. A. Hubbard.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

SEPT. 24, 2 P. M.

The meeting opened with the Vice-President, Mrs. G. H. Albright, in the chair.

After prayer and song the session was regularly opened by the reading of the minutes of the morning session.

A Bible reading, "Strength for Service," was given by Mrs. O. M. Easterday.

After a hymn, business was taken up.

A rising vote of thanks was given Mrs. Easterday for her enjoyable and profitable readings.

The Committee on By-Laws reported the following, which were accepted by the Convention :

*By-Laws.*

I. The officers of the Synodical Society shall constitute a Synodical Committee, provided for in the Constitution, and they shall determine the frequency of their meetings.

II. The place for committee meetings shall be left to the Executive Committee until otherwise ordered by the Synodical Convention.

III. The traveling expenses of the members of the Synodical Committee incurred in attending their meetings shall be paid by the Treasurer, on order signed by the President.

IV. The Executive Committee may choose two members to add to the committee. Three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

V. The fiscal year of this Society shall begin September 1, and end August 31 the following year.

VI. The Missionary Societies of the Synod shall hold an annual praise meeting just previous to the annual Convention.

VII. The Synodical expenses shall be left each year with the Executive Committee to apportion among the Societies according to their membership.

VIII. Each Auxiliary Society and Young People's Society shall be limited to two voting delegates to the annual Convention, and each Mission Band shall be represented by its superintendent or leader.

IX. Life members of the General Society, who are members of Auxiliaries, shall have the privilege of voting at their Synodical Conventions.

Bills to the amount of \$23.49, for traveling expenses of the Executive Committee, literature work, and current expenses, were presented, and ordered paid.

Greetings from Mrs. G. S. Diven, Wilber, were read, calling attention to the Nine O'clock Prayer Band, asking members of the Convention to join this Band.

No formal action was taken.

Moved and seconded, the delegates present the claims of the paper, *Children's Missionary*, to the home Societies, and try to increase its circulation.

Carried.

The next hour was occupied by the children.

The Children's Mission Band, Kountze Memorial, welcomed the Convention.

An exercise was given representing Dr. Kugler receiving her patients in the dispensary.

#### Election of Officers.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

*President*—Mrs. C. W. Baker, Auburn.

*Vice-President*—Mrs. G. H. Albright, Lincoln.

*Recording Secretary*—Miss Matilda Leisenring, Omaha.

*Corresponding Secretary*—Mrs. L. F. M. Easterday, Lincoln.

*Treasurer*—Mrs. J. B. Bruner, Omaha.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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#### THURSDAY EVENING.

SEPT. 24TH, 8 P. M.

The session opened with the President, Mrs. C. W. Baker, in the chair.

Rev. J. C. Jacoby, Nebraska City, conducted the opening services.

The following letter from Miss Dryden was read by Mrs. Ed. Juel:

ARDMORE, PA.

*Dear Friends:* You have requested of me a letter for this Convention. It gives me pleasure to write for any Convention of our work in India, but this letter gives me greater pleasure than usual, because it gives me the pleasure of acceding to a request made by my dear friend, Mrs. Easterday. Of course

in one letter it is impossible to write much of any department of our work. I wonder if all of you know where our field is? India is nominally under the English Government. The parts under English rule are called Presidencies. There are three of these—one in north India, called the Bengal Presidency; one in south India, known as the Madras Presidency; and the Bombay Presidency, in western India. These Presidencies are something like states, and are governed by a Governor sent from England. The Presidencies are subdivided into districts, just as States are divided into counties. But these districts are larger and far more important than counties here at home. The mission field under our church is situated in the Krisna district of the Madras Presidency. This district is the third richest and most important in the Presidency. The products of the district are rice, cotton, indigo, small grain, and fruit.

The inhabitants of the District are Mohammedans and Hindus. The Mohammedans are merchants or farmers. The Hindus rake up clerkships under the English, are merchants, farmers, teachers, lawyers, doctors, priests.

The Lutheran Mission occupies the south half of the Krisna District. We have under our care about 1,000,000 people; of these about 1300 are Christians.

Now, very briefly I want to tell you something of each of these classes into which our people are divided.

1. *Mohammedans*.—These are followers of the false prophet Mohammed. They pray to God through Mohammed. They are cruel in their conduct and exceedingly immoral. Mohammedan men can have as many as four wives; many have twenty or thirty. The men are very lazy, and seldom able to support one wife decently. Mohammedan women are the most wretched of all India's inhabitants. After marriage they are put into gosha, that is, the seclusion of women from the sight of men. They are frequently married at eight or ten years of age, and in many cases never afterwards permitted to see the face of their own father or brother. The Mohammedan houses are built with the windows high up, so the women inside can not look out, and the men outside can not look in. Usually the women are kept in the back part of the house, so they can not be about the door which opens from the front part of the house into the street. Although a Mohammedan woman may be starving, she could not go into the street to work, or into any other home, for work, for fear she should be seen by men. Although a Mohammedan woman may be dying, she could not see a man physician. In these very small Mohammedan homes are always three, four, or ten wives. There is little enough food, and of course the most horrible fighting, quarreling, and swearing, goes on continually.

2. The *Hindus* worship 30,000 gods, and are so divided into caste system that almost every family represents some caste. From earliest infancy Hindus are taught to lie and deceive; this has so destroyed confidence in each other that there is no such thing as a real trusting of a brother's word or action.

This lack of confidence in each other interferes with all the business relations of life. Men will not combine money interests to develop the industries of the country. Caste is the supremest form of selfishness; it makes men and women live almost altogether to themselves. Our Hindus have no social life; they never comprehend even in a remote sense of the word the meaning of the brotherhood of man. Our people are poor because the country is undeveloped, money buried or put into jewels, and not kept in circulation.

Hindu children are always married young. All the high caste girls must be married before they are nine years old. Frequently a child of seven will be married to an old man of seventy, or one of six to a boy of seven. I have known girls of thirteen or fourteen to be mothers. Should a girl's husband die, even while she is a child, she is considered to have been in some way the cause of his death. All her life she is a widow, and although she may be wealthy, her life is one which is hard to bear and full of cruel treatment.

The Hindu religion enters in and permeates every department of life. Sickness is often considered either a god or a devil, and indicates the good will or displeasure of the gods. Small-pox is a goddess, and it is almost impossible to get the natives to do anything for it. Cholera is a devil, and nothing in their eyes can be of any use during a cholera epidemic than sacrifices. During the first year of a child's life, if the child should be ill, it is supposed to be possessed by some devil, and the devil is gotten out of the child by burning it with hot irons.

3. The *Christians* are all from the Hindu people. They are a mere handful compared to the heathen. They live in the midst of heathenism, and are only babes in Christ, and of course are not such examples of Christian manhood and womanhood as we could wish. You who live in the midst of a Christian sentiment can have no idea of how much this sentiment does to keep you pure in the Christian life. Of course, our Christians lie and steal, are immoral and deceitful, but they are far better than their heathen neighbors. Christian education, Christian training, is enabling them to give up the most debasing forms of heathenism, and here and there among them do we find examples of how much the Gospel of Christ does to change the whole man.

And now, before I close, just a word concerning our duty toward these Hindu and Mohammedan people. Your interest in this work of evangelization must not be due to the admiration which you feel for the supposed sacrifice of your missionaries. If based on this, when you find we have plenty to eat and wear, in fact, are not suffering in any way, your interest will die out. Your interest must not rest upon the sad condition of the people in heathen lands so far as physical wants go, else when you find philanthropists provide for this, your part of the work will be done. Your interest and mine, as followers of Christ, must rest upon the command of our Master, "Go ye." Because I go to India and labor there, my work is not more than yours. If you support the work as you should, you may do your duty from this side more perfectly than I who labor there.

To-day our Church urgently needs more men for the work. There are men to be had, but, alas! no money to send them. We believe the Bible: from it we can draw no other conclusion except that through Christ alone men can be saved from eternal punishment. Is it not a shame to us that we do so little to help save our fellow-men? My heart burns when I think of it. Everywhere here in America plenty, and yet no money to send even one man more to our India Mission field. If missionaries had not been sent to our ancestors, where would we now be? How good God is not to measure out His gifts to us as we measure out to our fellow-men.

Miss Edith Dunning read a letter from our missionary at Sacramento, Rev. W. S. Hoskinson, giving an encouraging account of the work there.

A collection of \$10.40 was lifted for Home Missions.

"Improvement for Christ *versus* Self-improvement," prepared by Mrs. W. L. Remsberg, was read by Mrs. L. F. M. Easterday.

Mrs. O. M. Easterday, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions, presented the following report:

Your Committee on Resolutions would submit the following:

1. *Resolved*, That we heartily thank the Society of the Kountze Memorial Church for so kindly and bountifully providing for our entertainment, and the enjoyable reception for the delegates on Tuesday evening.
2. *Resolved*, That we express our thanks to the energetic pastor and his faithful wife for their untiring efforts in our behalf; to the members of Kountze Memorial Church for the use of their beautiful house of worship; to the kind friends whose comfortable homes have been so hospitably opened for our entertainment during our stay in the city.
3. *Resolved*, That we express our appreciation to the choir for the music furnished at the evening sessions; for the services of Mr. Oscar Goodman, Miss Frances Roeder, and Mr. Spoerri, which all have added greatly to the enjoyment of the Convention. Also to the *Bee* and *World-Herald* for courtesy shown to us by their full and accurate accounts of our sessions.
4. *Resolved*, That we are grateful for the presence of the Western Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, and other visiting clergymen of the city and elsewhere, thereby expressing their interest in and sympathy for our work.
5. *Resolved*, That as individual members of this Convention, we will take a deeper interest in the distribution and use of the literature furnished by the Literature Committee, thus responding to the faithful work of its Chairman.
6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention are due the ladies of the Executive Committee for their wise planning during the year, and the happy arrangement of the programme for the present Convention; and that we recognize the careful and faithful work which the retiring President and

Treasurer have performed in the various duties pertaining to their respective offices, the latter having filled her office for several years.

7. That in view of the vast territories in new countries now open to us, and the increasing demands of our home fields, that we urge all to greater zeal and deeper consecration, to go forward in love, reverence and hope, to publish the news of a living Saviour to the world.

NAOMI KNIGHT EASTERDAY,

MRS. W. C. MCCOOL,

MRS. J. C. JACOBY.

Mrs. J. B. Bruner resigned her office as Treasurer, and the resignation was left in the hands of the Executive Committee.

Greetings were sent from the W. C. T. U. Convention in response to our greetings.

The Literature and Executive Committees were announced by the President.

The pastors present made some closing remarks before the Society finally adjourned, to meet in its Thirteenth Annual Convention at Auburn, Nebraska, in 1892.

MATILDA LEISENRING,

*Recording Secretary.*

**"The Field is the World."**

# APPENDIX.

## CONSTITUTION.

### ARTICLE I.—*Name.*

This Association shall be called the "Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska."

### ARTICLE II.—*Aim.*

It shall be the aim of this Society to promote the organization of Home and Foreign Missionary Societies in all the churches of the Synod, to disseminate missionary intelligence, to cultivate a missionary spirit, and to engage and invite the efforts of Christian women in supporting missions and missionaries, and in erecting churches and other buildings under the control of the General Society.

### ARTICLE III.—*Membership.*

All women who are members of Auxiliary Societies, or pay the sum of one dollar annually, shall be members of this Society. The payment of ten dollars at one time shall constitute life membership in the General Society. Gentlemen may become honorary members of this Society by the payment of one dollar annually, or honorary life members of the General Society on the payment of ten dollars at one time into the General Fund.

### ARTICLE IV.—*Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

SEC. 2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and supervise its general work.

SEC. 3. The Vice-President shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President, and co-operate with her in furthering her work.

SEC. 4. The Recording Secretary shall give due notice of the meetings of the Synodical Committee, and the annual meetings of the Society, and keep a record of the proceedings of both. Also, prepare the minutes of the annual Convention for publication, under direction of the President.

SEC. 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall, under the direction of the Synodical Committee, conduct the correspondence of the Society, present to the annual Convention a written statistical statement of the work during the year, and make a quarterly or annual report to the Corresponding Secretary of the General Society.

SEC. 6. The Treasurer shall receive the funds forwarded by the Auxiliary Societies, credit the same to their respective Societies, and remit them quarterly to the Treasurer of the General Society. She shall also have charge and keep an account of the funds raised for the incidental expenses of this Society, and pay out the same only on written order of the President. She shall also present a written report for the annual meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE V.—*Organizing Committees.*

SECTION 1. These Committees shall consist of three women from each Conference.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of these Committees to endeavor by all practicable means to organize Auxiliary Societies in all the congregations of their respective Conferences, and report quarterly or yearly to the Corresponding Secretary, and at the annual Convention of this Society.

ARTICLE VI.—*Literature.*

In each Synodical Society there shall be a Committee on Literature, whose duty it shall be to co-operate with the General Committee on Literature, and furnish Auxiliary Societies with missionary intelligence in the form of tracts, periodicals, copies of missionary letters, etc.

ARTICLE VII.—*Elections.*

Officers shall be elected at the close of each annual Convention. Officers of this Society, Auxiliary Delegates, and officers and members of the Executive Committee of the General Society, shall have the right to vote.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Incidental Funds.*

The incidental expenses of the Synodical Society shall be defrayed by the payment annually of five cents per member from each Auxiliary Society.

ARTICLE IX.—*Quarterly Reports.*

Synodical Societies desiring quarterly reports from their respective Auxiliaries may require such to be given by the Corresponding Secretary of the Auxiliary Society.

ARTICLE X.—*Auxiliary Societies.*

Any number of women may form a W. H. and F. M. Society Auxiliary to the Synodical Society, by adopting the Constitution prepared for Auxiliary Societies and contributing to the objects under the control of the General Society.

ARTICLE XI.—*Meetings.*

The annual Convention shall be held just previous to or at the time and place of the meeting of Synod, when practicable.

ARTICLE XII.—*By-Laws.*

The Synodical Society may make any by-laws that do not conflict with this Constitution.